

MISS STARLING'S LETTER

Closing Exercises of the Mission School in Far Away Siam.

Cheing Mai, Laos, June 14, 1911—Our closing exercises went off with a grand flourish, last Thursday afternoon. We had been having showers off and on, for days, but they fortunately held up that afternoon. About an hour after the performance, it began to rain, and poured in torrents, with slight intermission, for several days afterwards. The "Floral drill" captivated everybody. The girls,—18 of them,—had hoops covered with vines, and a large yellow trumpet-shaped flower at the top. They went through different poses, to the music of Lange's "Flower Song" and then formed in a circle, and did the grand right and left of the Lancers, and several other dances, to schottische time. The time then changed to a march, and they went off the lawn. They did it just about perfectly, which was remarkable, considering that they had never danced any before. Eight girls wound the May-pole, to waltz time (red, white and blue streamers), and did some fancy dances with streamers of crimson silk, with white artificial roses at intervals. Miss Buck had a drill, and these were interspersed with songs, both in English and Laos. We served tea upstairs to the English and some specially invited guests among the high-class natives, and had an exhibit of the lace, sewing, and weaving of the girls. On the whole, it was very successful.

I am going to Lakawn for the next five months, to take charge of the Girls' School, until the return of Miss Carothers from furlough. I shall be very glad of the little change, and the chance to see the work of another station. I shall prefer keeping house, if there are enough things over there for me to do so. I shall take nothing from here ex-

cept my clothing, as I am to be there such a short time, and moving out here is very expensive, besides being hard on one's furniture. You can imagine that I am looking forward to this first experience at keeping house, with a great deal of interest ("she'll be sick of it inside of a week" I can hear you say.) I think I am very fortunate, to have had a chance to see so much of the country, during my short stay here. School-teachers are usually kept very close at home. School will begin some time in July, so I will have to get ready pretty soon. I am going to buy Mrs. McCluer's saddle, I have been borrowing, the few times I needed one,—and will have to make a riding-skirt. Wouldn't you like to see it? But there are plenty of good people here, to help me. If you like, you can address any letters that will reach me up to the middle of Nov. to Lakawn. After that, write me at Chieng Mai again, unless you hear from me to the contrary.

I enjoyed your poetry about the bed-bug, but it is evident you are not afflicted with them, or you could not wax poetical on such a subject. I don't see, either, why you went to the trouble to change "far" and "hot", when you might as well have said—

"Is there a place so hot, so far,
That the inevitable bed-bug is not
thar?"

Ever since school was out, I have been engaged in the pleasant task of chasing dirt and bed-bugs. When I leave, I will leave the place fairly free of both, and if they don't stay that way, it is not my fault. Our new looms arrived from India yesterday, said to weave fifty yards of cloth a day,—a great improvement on the old hand-loom.

I walked out to Nawng Patit Sun-

day afternoon, to the dedication of a new house, and it was one of the prettiest I have seen out here. There was nothing unusual about the style, but I never saw more beautiful wood. The walls were sort of a tan wood, stripped with the most beautiful satiny brown, and so full of curls and eyes, the marking almost looked artificial.

Last Sunday we had a memorial service for Dr. McGilvary which was just three hours and twenty minutes long. Dr. Campbell had arranged to have communion service the same Sunday, so he could get a big crowd. We have an order of service which is rather long, and after that, there were several other songs, four anthems, thirteen speeches (there were others on the program, but Dr. C. finally decided to abridge the service), and after that, 17 baptisms, admission of about thirty more into the church, and communion. I think everyone was completely worn out. But the baptisms were the funniest thing. The memorial service had lasted two hours and three quarters, and the poor babies had been fretting for some time, when they were called to be baptized. They are always the funniest looking lot anyhow. One of them had on a doll straw hat, with a red and a green feather in it; I don't know where on earth they got it. And the rest were dressed in all colors of the rainbow, with yellow chalk wet, and pasted on their faces, like they put powder on, out here. Dr. Campbell had just gotten to the third baby when it set up a howl; the rest of the babies evidently thought he had hurt it, for thereafter, whenever he would touch one to baptize it, it would yell. I counted five babies yelling at once, and then I lost count. The last baby was our watchman's boy, two years old. He has been sick, and Miss Buck has had to give him medicine several times, so he sets up a howl, every time he sees either of us. He was dressed for the occasion in a pair of red-striped

rompers, and looked like a big stick of peppermint candy, with a big black felt hat on one end; it was so big, you could hardly see his face. I was sitting behind the organ, and couldn't see all the children, but I knew the moment Dr. C. struck our baby, from his healthy yell. After that, I lost count, as I couldn't hear anybody else crying, for him. A good laugh braced me up a little, for the rest of the service.

Little babies out here, never have on any clothes, except when they are baptized. The only attempt made to dress them up being to put bright vari-colored yarn caps,—Tam-o'-Shanters, on their heads.

In the coldest weather, you will see the pater families going around shivering, with a blanket around his shoulders, and the poor little baby with not a stitch on. The first thing they do with a new-born baby is to souse it in cold water, and every morning of the world it gets a cold shower bath. Dr. Mason has found that a great many of the natives have weak hearts, and he thinks it is due to the fact of their cold baths, and insufficiently protected bodies when they are young.

The Collinses came in Monday morning from the country, in an ox-cart, the roads were so bad. The rains drove them home. I was sorry I did not get out with them, again. They started a fine school at Bethlehem, of about 50 pupils, and had several additions to the church. They didn't do anything at Nawng Fan, on account of the rain. They are fine workers.

Yes, the boat picture I sent you, shows the boats on which we travel, and transport our freight. I don't know how many miles it is, but it is a ten days' journey down river, in good water, and much longer, going up.

I am sending you a picture this week, of Mrs. McGilvary, pruning her shrubs. It is very characteristic. I took it the same afternoon I took the one I sent you, sitting.

It would be a very good thing to build the foundations of our houses of stone, if we had the stone to build it with. And we might get the stone, if we had the quarries, and any better means of transportation than ox-carts. But really I doubt if water standing in your basement six months in the year would be very desirable. Our house is raised quite twelve feet from the ground, and stands on posts; so it dries out much quicker underneath than it would if it were inclosed with stone.

Lucy Starling.

The May American Magazine

Probably the most important article in the May American Magazine is a complete and dispassionate account of the great strike at Lawrence written by Ray Stannard Baker. Another important contribution is a statement of the relations between Taft and Roosevelt contributed by William Allen White, under the title, "Should Old Acquaintance Be Forgotten?" Other articles are: "Freak Plays That Have Decided Baseball Championships," by Hugh S. Fullerton; "The New Stagecraft," by Walter Prichard Eaton; "La Follette's Autobiography," and "The Irresponsible Woman and the Friendless Child," by Ida M. Tarbell.

Notable among the pieces of short fiction in the number are: "Bringing the Years," by Kathleen Norris, author of "Mother"; "His Upward Step," by Marion Hill, and "The Man Who Knew Life," by Philip Curtiss.

In the "Interesting People" department there are two unusual short articles, one about N.C. Hanks a sightless, armless lecturer who made a great success in the world after one of the most horrible catastrophes that ever happened to a man. There is also an account of James A. Durkin, the most famous office boy in the world. In the office of a great Chicago daily he has been for years the universal encyclopaedia,

directory and autocrat. The story of Jimmy Durkin is good, amusing reading.

Death Of Mr. O'Nan.

W. L. O'Nan, brother of Mr. Lockett O'Nan, of this city, died in Owensboro Monday, aged 52 years. Death was caused by dropsy.

Henry Watterson Hotel.

Another new and big hotel, the Henry Watterson, was formally opened for business in Louisville last week. The Henry Watterson is one of the largest hotel buildings in Louisville, situated on the north side of Walnut street, between Fourth and Fifth streets.

John Markham, who spent the winter on the southern coast, is here on a short visit.

Scotch Dog's Business Instinct. Left one night on Wagonfire mountain with 3,088 sheep by the death of John Sagoday, her master, one female shepherd dog two weeks later delivered to Manuel Saunders, owner of the sheep, 3,085 of the animals, having lost only one during two weeks of privation. The dog's achievement was carried out despite the fact that she was the mother of puppies only a few days old when her master died.—From Our Dumb Animals.

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WEEK-END BARGAINS!

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MAY 3RD AND 4TH.

35c Ladies' Silk Hose 35c

"Gordon" Silk Hose, pure silk thread, deep lisle tops, lisle heel, toe and sole; White, Black, Tan and colors; all perfect goods, no seconds, always sell for and are worth 50c a pair, satisfaction guaranteed. Specially priced Friday and Saturday a pair 35c, three pair for \$1.00.

35c Ladies' Gauze Lisle Hose 35c

Ladies' "Onyx" Gauze Lisle Hose, garter top, double sole, heel and toe; colors white and black. Regular 50c value, Special Friday and Saturday 35c pair, three pair for \$1.00.

7c Cotton Huck Towels 7c

20 Dozen good quality hemmed Cotton Huck Towels, with red Borders, size 18x36 inches; regular 10c value, Friday and Saturday, each 7 cents.

15c Brown Dress Linens 15c

200 Yards extra good Brown Dress Linen, 27 inches wide; regular 20c value, Friday and Saturday the yard 15c.

59c Yard-Wide Black Taffeta 59c

Fine lustrous Chiffon Finish Black Taffeta Silk, yard wide, \$1.00 value, Friday and Saturday a yard 59c.

19c Tissue Gingham 19c

Lorraine and other makes of fine Tissue Ginghams, 27 inches wide; value 25c yard, Special Friday and Saturday 19c yard.

9c Striped and Check White Goods 9c

Good quality, 27 inch Checked Plaid and Striped White Goods, suitable for ladies' Underwear and Waists and Dresses, regular 15c value, Special Friday and Saturday the yard 9c.

7c Ladies' Bleached Vests 7c

25 Dozen Ladies' Bleached Vests, taped neck and sleeves, splendid value at regular price 10c each; Special Friday and Saturday each 7 cents; 4 for 25 cents.

7c Yard-Wide Bleached Domestic 7c

1200 Yards Bleached Domestic, absolutely free from starch and dressing; full yard wide, worth regular 9c a yard, Special Friday and Saturday the yard 7 cents.

7 1-2c New Spring Percales 7 1-2c

New Spring Percales, light and dark colors, good quality, colors absolutely fast, regular 10c value, Special Friday and Saturday the yard 7 1-2c.

50c Colored Dress Goods 50c

Ten pieces all wool Dress Goods, good range of colors, former prices \$1.00 a yard, Friday and Saturday the yard 50c.

39c Foulard Silks 39c

Ten pieces good quality Foulard Dress Silks, all this season's new colors and printings, 50c value; Special Friday and Saturday the yard 39c.

10c Dress Ginghams 10c

Ten pieces, 500 yards only, New Spring Zephyr Dress Ginghams; 32 inches wide, regular 15c value, Special Friday and Saturday the yard 10c.

5c Apron Gingham 5c

600 Yards good quality Apron Check Ginghams, fast colors, value 6 1-2c yard, Special Friday and Saturday the yard 5 cents.

39c Misses and Children's Middy Jackets, white with red and blue trimmings, and solid blue and tan with white trimmings; 50c value.

98c Good quality Gingham House Dresses, regular price \$1.25.

\$8.75 Women and Misses Tailored Suits, all new One and Two button effects, Blue, Tan and Grey Serges, fancy silk collars and reverses. Specially priced \$8.75, val. \$12.50 and \$15.00.

\$4.95 Foulard Silk Dresses prettily made; new Spring styles, regular prices \$6.50 and \$7.50.

\$4.95 White Serge Dresses, Misses and Junior sizes 13 to 34; all wool, white and white and black. Regular price \$6.50.

\$17.50 Whip Cord Suits, Ladies and Misses; sizes 16 to 42, colors Two-toned, Black and White, Brown and White, Tan and Navy, specially priced \$17.50.

\$4.95 Best quality Panama Hats, regular price \$6.50 and \$7.50.

\$2.75 Choice of 50 \$5.00 Trimmed Hats, Vail, hand-made braids, etc., suitable for street wear.

\$2.98 Ladies Waists, fine Chiffon over lace in White, Navy, Black, Brown; some embroidered, regular price \$3.50, sale price \$2.98.

98c Untrimmed Milan Shapes, small or large, regular price \$1.50, sale price 98c.

50c Women's Rough Straw Sailors, white with colored bands, black with white or black bands also red; only 94 in lot, worth in town \$1.00, as long as they last 50c.

\$3.75 Willow Plumes. These are good size and quality, black and white, some few colors, regular price \$5.00, Sale Price \$3.75.

Railroad Fares Refunded

When you have completed your shopping at this store take your sales checks to the office rear of Shoe Room and we will rebate in cash 5 per cent of your total purchase up to the amount of your round trip railroad ticket.